



The President's Daily Brief

22 December 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Moscow has made a strong show of support for Poland's Gierek, who faces some continuing unrest in the northern cities. (Page 1)

Sunday's riots on Okinawa have touched off demands on the Japanese Government to secure redress of Okinawan grievances. (Page 2)

Turkish Prime Minister Demirel's position has eroded further. (Page 3)

Moscow has resumed relief flights to East Pakistan. (Page 3)

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POLAND

The Soviet party has made a strong show of support for new Polish leader Gierek.

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The Soviets may well wish to head off speculation that Moscow is unhappy with the changes. Moscow clearly feels that its interests lie in restoration of stability in Poland; in all likelihood the new regime can be sure of Soviet support as long as its policies work in this direction.

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In Poland itself, the people appear to have accepted the party leadership changes calmly, but some unrest persists in the north. Yesterday Radio Szczecin corrected its report of Sunday that shipyard workers had returned to work, and indicated that negotiations were still going on at the yards and at other local plants. Warsaw broadcasts yesterday stated that only 80 percent of the workers in the Gdansk-Gdynia-Sopot area had returned to work, and this figure may be somewhat exaggerated.

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OKINAWA-JAPAN

Sunday's riots, touched off by the injury of an Okinawan pedestrian by a car driven by an American serviceman, have sparked a wave of criticism in both Japan and Okinawa against the Japanese Government as well as against the US. Tokyo is accused of tolerating a "disregard for basic human rights" on the island. Japanese opposition parties are demanding that judicial authority in Okinawa be transferred to Japan even before reversion in 1972.

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Okinawan emotions have been rising as a result of a number of recent incidents, including the acquittal of a US serviceman accused of the hit-and-run killing of an Okinawan woman. Delay in the removal of chemical weapons is another contributing factor. With racial overtones increasingly evident in Okinawan reactions, any additional incidents involving US military personnel could well provoke even more serious disturbances and add to pressure on Tokyo to redress Okinawan grievances.

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NOTES

Turkey: Defections from Prime Minister Demirel's Justice Party in the past few days have left him with a majority of only one in the lower house, including several who are unreliable. The US Embassy reports that further defections are generally expected, and Demirel could be forced to resign in the next two weeks. The formation of a new Democratic Party on Sunday by former Justice Party adherents appears to be accelerating the trend. [REDACTED]

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USSR-Pakistan: Moscow has resumed relief flights to East Pakistan after briefly suspending them when an AN-22 transport aircraft crashed in India with the loss of all 17 personnel aboard. This is the second AN-22 to have crashed on a relief mission. The first went down in July near Iceland while carrying aid to survivors of last May's earthquake in Peru. The AN-22, a turboprop plane, is the largest Soviet cargo aircraft and has two thirds the payload of the C-5A. Moscow now has about six of them in military service.

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